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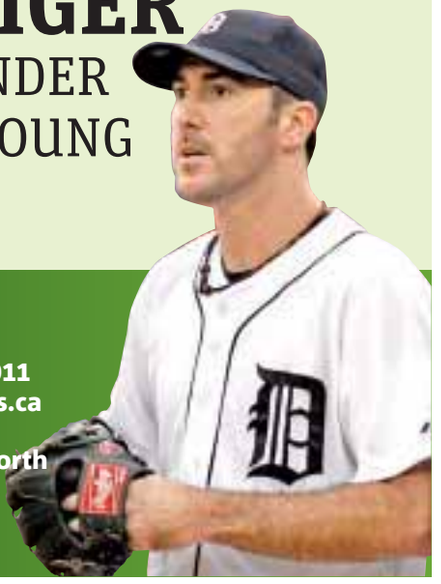
TUXEDO JUNCTION
ANOTHER PENGUIN MOVIE HITS THE THEATRES {page 9}

FLYING TIGER
JUSTIN VERLANDER CLINCHES CY YOUNG AWARD {page 13}



LONDON metro®
Wednesday, November 16, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

▶ Stephen Szucs, of 1st Line Property Management, puts the finishing touches on the walls of the YOU Made It Café in the Cornerstone building. Youth Opportunities Unlimited is planning a grand opening of the building on Nov. 25.

A brand new YOU

◗ Multimillion-dollar youth hub ready to open ◗ Only a few more construction days before Cornerstone building welcomes guests

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

The wrapper is about to be peeled off a four-year labour of love.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited is planning a Nov. 25 grand opening of its Cornerstone building at Richmond and York streets.

Steve Cordes, for one, is anxious to see the building spring to life. After that, he says, the real work starts.

"The excitement will be helping to support the development of partnerships … and making sure the full vision is realized," Cordes, the executive director of YOU, said yesterday.

That vision — creating a hub of services and opportunities for at-risk youth — began in 2007 when YOU bought the three-storey, nearly 140-year-old building. Within weeks, volunteers were gutting the first floor, once home to three bars.

"The taps were still on. We literally had to have someone come and turn them off," Cordes said, as workers painted interior walls and began removing a temporary wood facade that has kept much of the work out of the public eye.

The $5-million facility — funded by a variety of donors and all levels of government — has faced obstacles and delays along the way.

One of the challenges was an unexpected structural problem that was causing the walls to collapse inward, officials have said. But some of the lengthy renovation is thanks to an eye for detail, Cordes said.

Plans have been put together piece by piece to make sure the building's 33,000 square feet are shaped into a multifaceted facility that's convenient for everyone.

The renovation also has included a bit of heritage work, with project leaders digging up the structure's original blueprints and using them as a guide.

Some parts of the building are already in use, including a rooftop boardroom with glass walls looking out onto the city skyline. YOU's Youth Action Centre has also moved in.

While the grand opening is set for next week, a few features — such as the YOU Made It Café operated by youth enrolled in YOU programs — isn't ready to welcome the public just yet.

"I think it's an important project for the downtown. It signifies that London is a place that can embrace its youth."
STEVE CORDES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED

"We're talking just a matter of weeks, though, before that's ready," Cordes said.

The building also incorporates transitional housing for teens and young adults.

7th Annual Accessory Event
Come join in the fun as we gaze through the jewels of the season. Vendors on site showcasing the entire collections. Don't miss this event as all jewelry is here for the day only.
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Council OKs extra east-end eyes

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

▶ Councillors Bill Armstrong, Stephen Orser and Matt Brown listen yesterday as a city staff member answers a question about installing surveillance cameras east of Adelaide Street.

Councillors support cheaper of two options for surveillance cameras

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

City councillors have given preliminary approval to spending $100,000 for surveillance cameras east of Adelaide Street.

Members of the community and neighbourhoods committee voted 3-2 yesterday that the plan move ahead for consideration at Monday's council meeting. Councillors Harold Usher and Matt Brown voted against the proposal, saying such spending requests should first be sent to the services review committee.

Coun. Stephen Orser was against that idea, saying he didn't want the issue "to get lost" in budget discussions. Orser refused to support sending the issue to services review unless the referral came with an "order" that money for the project be found.

"I'd like some kind of commitment out of this committee for the safety and security of the Old East Village," Orser said during yesterday's meeting. "I want to make (the village) safe. I don't want to nickel-and-dime it."

Orser has led the charge on installing the cameras along Dundas Street from Adelaide to Rectory streets as a response to increased crime, including drug use.

He first pitched the idea in September, prompting council to ask city administrators for a report on the cost of cameras. That report, which the community and neighbourhoods committee received yesterday, said wireless cameras would cost $100,000 up front and $40,000 a year to operate.

Cameras that operate on a fibre-optic system would cost $500,000 a year to install and $35,000 a year to operate. That option was dismissed at yesterday's meeting.

Shark-fin decision delayed

City officials want more information from the federal government before deciding if they will support drafting a municipal bylaw banning shark-fin products.

Coun. Sandy White brought the idea to council's community and neighbourhoods committee after being contacted by constituents. During last night's meeting, several members of the committee said the issue might best be handled at the federal level. City staff have been directed to write a letter to the government asking for details on the issue.

Several other cities, including Toronto, Oakville and Brantford, have passed shark-fin bans.

Shark fin is considered a delicacy in some cultures, often used in soup.

At least one local restaurant sells shark-fin soup. The Golden Dragon in Byron doesn't have the dish on its takeout menu, but an employee said it can be ordered with a day's notice.

ANGELA MULLINS

News in brief

Shooting under investigation

CRITICAL CONDITION. London police are still investigating a shooting that occurred at Boullee Street at Krupp Street on Nov. 6. The victim is still in critical condition.

The victim was at a party at the Community Hall at 47 Boullee St. moments before the shooting.

Investigators would like to speak to anyone who was at the party during the evening of Nov. 5 and early hours of Nov. 6.

If anyone has any information, call police at 519-661-5670 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Information can also be sent to londoncrimestoppers.com.

METRO

Fashion show on tonight

STUDENTS. The Re-duce, Re-use, Re-love Revamped Fashion Show is tonight at the London Music Hall (185 Queens Ave.) Doors open at 7 p.m. Fashion merchandising students from Fanshawe College have restyled clothing donated by Goodwill Industries and given it a new edge. There will also be a silent auction. Tickets are $20.

METRO

Suspects' details released by cops

DONATIONS. Police have released descriptions of three suspects from Monday's bank robbery at the Bank of Montreal on Hamilton Road near Egerton Street.

Police are searching for three 18- to 25-year-old men. The first suspect is of unknown race, approximately six feet tall; the second is black, also about six feet tall; and the third suspect is black, roughly five-foot-eight. Police say the suspects fled the area in a grey or silver vehicle with a licence plate similar to BVNT 104.

If you have any information, call London Police Service at 519-661-5670.

AM980/AM980.CA

1 news

A new website offers help to young people who live with a parent suffering from dementia. Scan the code for the story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

Eat, Fry, Love — starring William Shatner — sounds an offbeat note of caution about the prospect of exploding turkeys. Video at metronews.ca/video

School shines light on domestic abuse

Campaign to end violence against women moves message into classrooms with Wear Purple Day
Purple is associated with strength and courage

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

▶ London Knights forwards Seth Griffith, left, and Vladislav Namestnikov are joined yesterday by Kaitlin Williams, the Knights' group sales manager, and London Abused Women's Centre advocate counsellors Ashley Dausett and Heather Wharram. The group was at Sir Isaac Brock Public School, where they talked to students about anti-bullying techniques and ways to end violence against women.

The month-long Shine the Light on Woman Abuse campaign was in full focus yesterday as purple lights cast a glow on city buildings and people dug out all the purple clothing they could find.

The message about ending violence against women also moved into schools as the London Abused Women's Centre teamed up with the London Knights to spread the word.

Members of the OHL team and representatives from the centre visited two local classrooms to talk about the issue and to field questions.

Touching base with students is a critical piece of the campaign's educational component, said Ashley Dausett, a counsellor at the women's centre.

"Any behaviours that maybe (students) have learned, those can be unlearned," she said.

It's also a chance to start breaking the stigma that prevents many people from talking openly about abuse, Dausett said.

The discussions also played into the Thames Valley District School Board's observance of Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week.

At Sir Isaac Brock Public School, the London Knights' Seth Griffith and Vladislav Namestnikov fielded questions on everything from why they fight on the ice, to how they would feel if one of their teammates seriously injured someone in a fight.

For a schedule of Shine the Light events for the remainder of the month, and for a look at campaign merchandise, check out lawc.on.ca, or call 519-432-2204.

Escaping violence

- London North Centre MP Susan Truppe, who serves as the Parliamentary Secretary for Status of Women, rose in the House of Commons yesterday to express support for the Shine the Light campaign.
- Since 2007, Status of Women Canada has approved more than $30.4 million for projects to end violence against women and girls.
- The federal government has contributed $1 million to make women's shelters more accessible to women escaping violence.

Ontario's finances to be discussed next week

Ontarians will find out next week how the province's economy is doing and how the slowdown is impacting the government.

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan will deliver the fall economic update Nov. 23, which the government has already said will confirm a deficit of $16 billion for this year.

Duncan has been warning that growth forecasts are being revised downward almost weekly and are much lower than his projections in the spring budget.

Premier Dalton McGuinty wants the government to limit its growth in spending to one per cent a year until the deficit is eliminated in six years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Duncan

That's going to mean cuts in areas other than health and education, but just what services will be reduced or eliminated won't be revealed until next spring's budget.

The Liberals used last year's fall economic update to announce a $1-billion plan to cut electricity bills by 10 per cent.

Ontario ranks 15th of 16 North American jurisdictions when it comes to gross domestic product per capita, with Quebec last on the list in a new report on competitiveness and economic progress.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legislature

- Next week will be busy at the legislature, which will start with the election of a Speaker on Monday and the Liberal's throne speech on Tuesday.
- The economic update is slated for Wednesday.
- The legislature hasn't sat since last June, and will be returning with a minority government the first time in a generation.

Lightning gain Buford in first NBL trade

The London Lightning and Halifax Rainmen have completed the first trade in the National Basketball League of Canada.

London acquired former NBA guard Rodney Buford. Buford, six-foot-five, was drafted by the Miami Heat in 1999. The Lightning sent power forward Tyrone Levett to Halifax.

In another roster move, London added some size to the backcourt with six-foot-six, 250-pound Shamari Spears. To make room on the roster, Tyler Bullock was released.

Both Buford and Spears are expected to be available for London in tomorrow's game against the Quebec Kebs. METRO

Physicians honoured

London Health Sciences Centre honoured more than a thousand staff members, researchers and physicians on Monday night for achieving service milestones.

Collectively representing almost 20,000 years of service, LHSC recognized 204 people who celebrated more than 25 years with LHSC.

Mary Turnbull was honoured for 45 years in the clinical microbiology lab. METRO

Can't 'evict an idea': Occupy T.O.

A judge says Occupy Toronto protesters can remain in a downtown park while the merits of a city eviction order are argued in court.

Occupy Toronto protesters went to court yesterday after receiving the eviction notices and are requesting an injunction against the eviction.

The judge says the protesters can't be removed pending his decision following arguments on Friday, but added that no new structures can be erected in the park.

As police looked on, by-law officers threaded their way between tents and through the mud yesterday morning to put up the notices, which were quickly taken down.

The protesters said the city could not "evict an idea" whose time had come, and they said they planned to stay.

But some demonstrators said they would leave rather than risk confrontation with police and possible criminal charges.

The protesters took over the park several blocks east of Bay Street on Oct. 15.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JAMES MACDONALD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Police apprehend a protester in Toronto.

N.Y.C. clears Occupy site in middle of night

Judge upholds surprise city action to break up Occupy Wall Street protest

Hundreds of police officers in riot gear raided the Occupy Wall Street encampment in New York City in the pre-dawn darkness yesterday, evicting hundreds of demonstrators and demolishing the tent city that was the epicentre of a movement protesting what participants call corporate greed and economic inequality.

The police action began around 1 a.m. and lasted several hours as officers with batons and plastic shields pushed the protesters from their base at Zuccotti Park.

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said about 200 people were arrested, including dozens who tried to resist the eviction by linking arms in a tight circle at the centre of the park. A member of the city council was among those arrested during the sweep.

MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ New York City police officers keeps a demonstrator affiliated with the Occupy Wall Street movement from entering Zuccotti Park yestetrday in New York.

By 4:30 a.m., the park was empty, wiped clean of any traces of the camp that had been there since Sept. 17. Tents and sleeping bags were hauled away to the dump. Workers used power washers to blast the stone plaza clean.

Later yesterday, a New York judge upheld the city's dismantling of the encampment, saying that the protesters' rights to free speech did not entitle them to camp out indefinitely in the plaza.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For more news on Occupy Wall Street and its affiliate protests, visit metronews.ca

Judge's ruling

- Supreme Court Justice Michael Stallman denied a motion by the demonstrators seeking to be allowed back into the park with their tents and sleeping bags.
- The protesters "have not demonstrated that they have a First Amendment right to remain in Zuccotti Park, along with their tents, structures, generators and other installations to the exclusion of the owner's reasonable rights ... or to the rights to public access of others who might wish to use the space safely," Stallman wrote.
- New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said he ordered the sweep because health and safety conditions and become "intolerable" in the crowded plaza.

News in pictures

PHOTOS
1. CRAIG RUTTLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
2. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
3. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
4. JOHN MINCHILLO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
5. CRAIG RUTTLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Occupy Wall Street protesters clash with police at Zuccotti Park after being ordered to leave their longtime encampment in New York, early yesterday.

2 Police disperse protesters near the encampment at Zuccotti Park. At about 1 a.m. yesterday, police handed out notices from the park's owner and the city saying that the park had to be cleared.

3 A protester is arrested during a march on Broadway after police ordered demonstrators to leave the park.

4 Sanitation workers gather at the site to start the cleanup effort.

5 Two protesters and their dog, who said they have slept with other protesters for the last 56 nights, sit along a police barricade at the edge of Zuccotti Park.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cool. Reception

▶ Protester Darren Noftall holds up a sign at a National Capital Commission photo-op promoting the capital's annual winter festival, Winterlude.

SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

Bearly occupied

While ice-hog mascots waved, oblivious to the protester behind them, NCC marketing chief Guy Laflamme deflected questions about the impending clash between his organization and the activists in Ottawa's Confederation Park, one of the main venues for Winterlude.

News in brief

Reporters taken into custody

NYC. Journalists have been detained while covering Occupy Wall Street. N.Y. police didn't have a count of how many journalists were arrested and didn't immediately comment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Memo warns of illegal arms trade

Minister quick to dismiss own department's analysis on ending registry of rifles and shotguns

Scrapping the requirement to register rifles and shotguns could fuel illegal firearms trafficking across the Canadian border, warns an internal federal memo.

It says the move would weaken import controls by eliminating a requirement for border officials to verify firearms coming into the country.

"Such a loophole could facilitate unregistered prohibited and restricted firearm trafficking into and through Canada," says the declassified memo, originally marked secret.

The memo was released under the Access to Information Act to the National Firearms Association and posted along with hundreds of other pages on the organization's website.

It was prepared by Mark Potter, a senior Public Safety Department official, for an assistant deputy minister as Parliament was debating a private member's bill to kill the registry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Law enforcement

- The Public Safety memo also says elimination of the registry would "significantly compromise" law enforcement's ability to trace firearms in Canada — for instance, linking a weapon left at a crime scene with an individual owner — or to support foreign police forces trying to do the same.

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Shooting Edge range officer Patrick Deegan displays long guns at the store in Calgary.

Bin Laden raid book false: U.S.

The U.S. Special Operations Command is calling a former Navy SEAL's book bogus over its claims to describe the "real" version of the raid that killed Osama bin Laden.

"It's just not true," U.S. Special Operations Command spokesman Col. Tim Nye said. "It's not how it happened."

Laden with conspiracy theories and attacks on the Obama White House, Chuck Pfarrer's SEAL Target Geronimo claims an alternative version of the raid in which the SEAL team shot bin Laden within 90 seconds of arriving at the Pakistan compound where the al-Qaida mastermind was holed up.

Pfarrer claims the White House issued a fictional and damaging account of the raid that made the SEALs looks inept. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

Attack on royal website blocked

LONDON. Scotland Yard's cyber-crime unit helped fend off an attack on the official website of Britain's royal wedding in April, the division's chief said yesterday.

Det. Supt. Charlie McMurdie told a cybersecurity conference that action was taken to safeguard the site, which received 15 million hits when Prince William married Kate Middleton on April 29. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Literary gold rush for author

TORONTO. Vancouver Island native Patrick deWitt says he was plagued with doubt about his comic western novel The Sisters Brothers when it first entered the wild world of publishing.

But that feeling is gone now that the story has struck book-prize gold, winning a $25,000 Governor General's Literary Award for fiction yesterday — two weeks after it landed the $25,000 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. DeWitt's novel, about two gunslinging brothers en route to California in the gold-rush era of the 1850s, was also nominated for the Man Booker Prize and the Scotiabank Giller.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nazi victims eye litigation

MIAMI. Thousands of aging Holocaust survivors in the U.S. want Congress to clear a path for them to sue European insurance companies they contend illegally confiscated Jewish life insurance policies during the Nazi era and have refused to pay an estimated $20 billion still owed.

A hearing is scheduled today in the House Foreign Affairs Committee on a bill that would provide the survivors with access to U.S. courts and also force companies such as Germany's Allianz SE and Italy's Assicurazioni Generali to disclose lists of policies held by Jews before the Second World War.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Murderers executed in Ohio and Florida

6

Brooks' death ends a nearly six-month break in Ohio's use of capital punishment.

Two U.S. men were executed yesterday, one for killing his three sleeping sons, the other for killing a woman and her two daughters after they visited Disney World.

In Ohio, Reginald Brooks of East Cleveland who fatally shot his three sons while they slept in 1982, shortly after his wife filed for divorce, was executed in with each of his hands clenched in an obscene gesture.

In Florida, Oba Chandler was executed for killing an Ohio woman and her two teenage daughters in June 1989 as the victims returned from a dream vacation to Disney World.

Brooks died first at 2:04 p.m. local time.

Dressed in the standard white T-shirt and blue pants, Brooks declined to make a final statement and remained silent as he received the lethal injection.

Witnesses, which included his former wife and her sisters, had a view of his left hand, its middle finger raised.

Prison officials said he was making the same gesture with his right hand.

Brooks' actions appear to have been unprecedented since the state resumed executions in 1999. Condemned Ohio inmates in the past have criticized their sentences, professed their innocence, given angry final statements and pleaded to be spared, but never made an obscene gesture.

At 66, Brooks is the oldest person put to death since Ohio resumed executions in 1999.

In Florida, Chandler, 65, was administered a lethal injection and pronounced dead at 4:25 p.m. local time yesterday at the state prison, Gov. Rick Scott's office said. Chandler's death warrant was the second Scott has signed since taking office.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Charge per user, not for usage: CRTC

Decision reverses plan to use limited-usage pricing models on smaller Internet providers

The federal telecommunications regulator has rejected a controversial plan that would have allowed the big phone and cable companies to impose a usage-based billing model on Internet service resellers, a system that the Conservative government and many consumers had opposed.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission's decision yesterday instead gives the companies a choice of either charging the smaller Internet providers a flat rate per user or selling the ISPs a specific amount of capacity on their networks.

"The net effect of it is that there will be no caps, no limitations, no metering of use for retail customers as a result of this CRTC decision," CRTC chairman Konrad von Finckenstein said.

The regulator launched its review after a social media campaign launched by the ISPs and an ensuing public backlash, as well as urging by former industry minister Tony Clement.

Under the new capacity model for billing, a small ISP buys a certain amount of network capacity from one of the big providers, and if its customers unexpectedly increase their usage, their service could slow.

"If they buy too little they have a problem with their end customers, if they buy too much they pay for something that they don't use," von Finckenstein said.

Industry Minister Christian Paradis said the government would study the decision carefully to ensure it stimulated competition and investment and allowed Canadians to choose. "Let me be clear: our government's policy will always be to encourage competition, ensure consumer choice and minimize regulation," he said in a statement last night.

Independent Internet service provider TekSavvy was pleased with the structure, but said the actual rates will increase costs for consumers. "The rates approved by the commission today will make it much harder for independent ISPs to compete," TekSavvy CEO Marc Gaudrault said. "This is an unfortunate development for telecommunications competition in Canada." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 5.08 (12,229.27)	- 0.38¢ (97.96¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
+ $1.23 US ($99.37 US)	$3.4040 (- 5.4¢)
	Gold
	$1,782.20 US (+ $3.80 US)

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DAD'S DOING DOUBLE DUTY

JUST SAYIN' ...

NEIL MORTON
METRO

Life is full of double standards, and here's one of mine: I can admit I protect (and sometimes micromanage) my daughters, 11 and 9, in a way I probably wouldn't if I had boys.

When I was dating my now-wife in high school — yes, high school sweethearts! — I used to snicker when she had to get home by midnight to turn off her dad's alarm clock. If she didn't beat the alarm, he said he'd go out looking for her, call police, call hospitals. I said I'd never be that kind of dad.

I am that kind of dad. More so because I have girls.

Why? Well, for one thing, I'm fully aware there are boys who will try to take advantage of them. Not all boys, but some.

There are also predators/monsters in the real world and online, enormous pressures around drugs and alcohol, and bullying (in recent weeks, a 10-year-old Illinois girl, Ashlynn Conner, hanged herself after being bullied at school). I know these things apply to boys as well, but I just think the implications are compounded for girls.

"The extent of our bad 'social media' growing up: crank calls and rolled-up pieces of paper (e.g. 'Johnny loves Sarah') passed around class. Now there's the quick distribution of voyeuristic photos from a party that go 'viral ...'"

It's not that I don't trust my daughters. It's that I know what kids are like. I was one. Kids are kids, not adults. They will make mistakes. They will make bad decisions sometimes. There are so many peer pressures.

What I tell my girls is we're instantly accessible whenever they're in a bind. Text us, call us, tweet us — we'll be there. No questions. No judgments. (Well, questions *will* come later.)

Mobile devices are a blessing for this generation, allowing kids to be much more accessible to their parents if they're in harm's way. But adding social media to the mix does create more trigger points.

The extent of our bad "social media" growing up: crank calls and rolled-up pieces of paper (e.g., "Johnny loves Sarah") passed around class. Now there's the quick distribution of voyeuristic photos from a party that go "viral" and Mean Girl tactics ("You're fat," "You're ugly," "You're Stupid") that don't end in the schoolyard but continue on Facebook.

We let our daughters use social media — there are many virtues to it — but monitor it very closely.

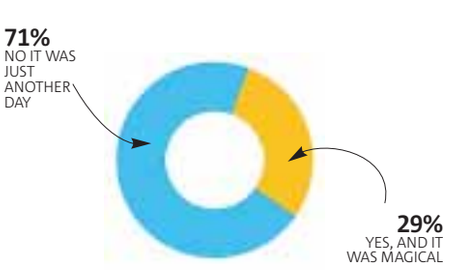
Sure kids have to have some sense of forging an identify outside their parents. We will give ours some line. But my blinders will not be on. Denial and ignorance do no good. As parents, you have to anticipate and react. Particularly with girls.

My angels won't understand all the decisions we make until they have grown into women and parents.

In the meantime, all we can do is protect them — and hopefully empower them at the same time.

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Did something special happen to you on 11-11-11?



Local tweets

- **@valoasis:** Looking forward to our cooking class tonight at Aroma's #Ldnont! #nomnomnom
- **@emilygross2:** Final exam schedule is up! Who's going home early? #uwo
- **@ndalessa:** Fun fact: Our annual Champion's Cup flag-football tournament will be taking place from November 26-27th! #getexcited #uwo #westernu
- **@LondonHumaneS:** What a terrific Tuesday! Xerox, our Christmas kitty, got adopted! We couldn't be happier! #ldnont
- **@taybirdy:** I just saw a police officer driving while holding his cell up to his ear. Aren't they supposed to lead by example? #ldnont@MIMAM980
- **@J_Robinsonn:** Girls at #UWO get so done up for 8 30 class...Yea you rock those heels and short skirt girl
- **@Ehr_max:** Helpful people at #uwo student services make me really happy!!!!
- **@kevinwardrop:** Hey #ldnont i love you when you're sunny in the morning (makes the walk to work awesome) thanks to coffee culture for a great cup this morn

Worth Mentioning

Individual debt is rising, savings are eroding and many young people have simply given up, staying home without looking for a job.

They are Italy's invisible poor, unseen by tourists, ignored by the country's fat-cat politicians and living in a reality that's a far cry from former prime minister Silvio Berlusconi's description of an affluent country where "the restaurants are full."

Or in the words of Francesa Zuccari, who runs a soup kitchen in Rome: "There is another city out there where people can't get to the end of the month."

This is the Italy facing Mario Monti, the economics professor tapped to form an interim technocratic government after Berlusconi was forced to resign.

On the one hand, Italy's elite manufacturers are girding for an increase in luxury exports and some wealthy Italians are looking to move their money into the real-estate markets in New York, Miami and Paris. On the other, the state statistics institute says almost 14 per cent of the population are living in "relative poverty."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

photo of the day

PHOTO CHALLENGE

This photo titled Prince's Island Park at Sunset was submitted to the Environment category by lindsay_j8 from Calgary.

Metro invites its readers to join the Metro Global Photo Challenge — running in 100 cities on four continents — to win fantastic prizes and worldwide recognition. Enter your digital photos at metrophotochallenge.com. The contest runs until Nov. 22. As well as a chance to win a trip to any city Metro publishes, one submission will also be featured here daily.

WEIRD NEWS

Trimming the cost of a haircut

One Ohio barber has turned the price of a haircut on its head.

After a mortgage crisis, macro-unemployment, stock-market tumbles and poor consumer confidence, Gregory Burnett is only charging people what they can afford for a haircut, according to the Canton Repository newspaper.

After his usual back-to-school rush failed to show, he put up a sign that says, "TIMES ARE HARD WHAT CAN YOU PAY FOR A CUT."

He has accepted as little as $5 for a regular $12 haircut, the newspaper reports.

The owner of Old School Barber Shop said he named his shop for that mantra.

"Old school is making something out of nothing," Burnett told the Repository.

The 56-year-old has been a working man all his life by doing service jobs: shining shoes, driving cabs, and for the last 25 years he has worked as a hairstylist and barber, the Repository says.

And now that he has his own barber shop, he still shines shoes. Although it's $5, and that's non-negotiable.

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HANDOUT

▶ Happy Feet Two dances into theatres this weekend.

Much ado about penguins

From March of the Penguins to Farce of the Penguins to the return of Happy Feet, it's hard to toss a fish without hitting one at the movies But who is the most famous penguin of all?

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

At the start of the animated penguin picture Surf's Up, Cody Maverick (the voice of Transformer's star Shia LaBeouf) takes a shot at another cartoon tuxedoed bird movie.

Asked if he has any other skills besides surfing. Cody sarcastically says, "Like what? Singing and dancing?"

Of course, he's referring to Happy Feet, the Oscar winning movie about an Emperor Penguin who can't find his soul mate the usual way — through song — so he uses his other talent — tap dancing.

The musical penguins of Happy Feet shim shammed their way to huge box office in 2006, and will paddle and roll their way back into theatres again this weekend in Happy Feet Two.

For a while, it seemed like you couldn't swing a herring without hitting a penguin at the movies.

March of the Penguins, a real-life look at the migration march of Emperor penguins to their traditional breeding ground, was a left field hit in 2005. The winner for Best Documentary not only out grossed all the nominees for Best Picture that year — it took in $77 million vs. $75 million for Brokeback Mountain — but also became the second highest grossing theatrical documentary after Fahrenheit 9/11.

The musical penguins of Happy Feet shim shammed their way to huge box office in 2006, and will paddle and roll their way back into theatres again this weekend in Happy Feet Two.

It was such a huge hit it inspired an R-rated parody, Farce of the Penguins. Featuring the voices of Samuel L. Jackson, Jason Alexander and Christina Applegate, it's an R-rated spoof that imagines what sex-starved penguins might talk about on the 70 mile walk to their mating grounds.

"I am tired of the club scene," says one penguin. "So are the baby seals!" replies another.

More family friendly was Madagascar, the story of four Central Park Zoo animals who get stranded on the island of Madagascar. The movie featured a large menagerie of characters, but the zoo's penguins, Skipper, Kowalski, Rico and Private, proved to be audience favorites. They have most of the movie's best lines — on landing in Africa one of the flightless birds says, "Africa? That ain't gonna fly!" — and were featured in a short film, The Madagascar Penguins in a Christmas Caper, a TV series and video games.

Probably the most famous penguin character in the movies is Oswald Cobblepot a.k.a. The Penguin, as played by Danny DeVito in Batman Returns.

This super villain is human, but dresses like a penguin, eats raw fish and tries to conquer Gotham with an army of specially trained penguins.

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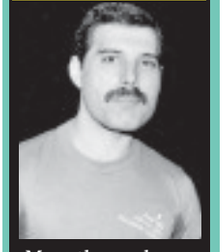
2 scene

Queen



More than a dozen Canadians are still in the running to go on a tour organized by drummer Roger Taylor of the classic rock band Queen. Taylor is going back on the road - although he's not playing and neither are his former bandmates — to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the seminal rock act. He organized web auditions to find a five-piece cover band and three vocalists to perform classic Queen tunes. Lead singer, Freddie Mercury, shown, died in 1991.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fourth soundtrack to blockbuster Twilight saga brings romance with sadness

The diva vs. the baby

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Patti LaBelle

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Patti LaBelle accused of screaming at a toddler and punching its mother

If you are a baby and happen to come across singer Patti LaBelle, it's best if you pull up your diaper, grab your rattle, and crawl right out of there.

It was disclosed yesterday in a lawsuit filed in Manhattan Supreme Court that the singer screamed obscenities at a toddler and threw a punch at the baby's mother (who also happens to be a school teacher) sometime this year.

The mother, Roseanna Monk, is now suing LaBelle, who was living in her Manhattan apartment building while appearing on Broadway's Fela. Apparently, this is what happened, according to Monk's lawyer, reports The New York Daily News: The 18-month-old toddler, named Genevieve, was "scampering" around the apartment building's lobby when LaBelle, who is described as being in "full star regalia with oversize shades and a fur coat" became upset at the baby as she walked through.

"'What are you doing letting your kid run around like that?' she reportedly yelled. And then, according to the lawyer yet again, 'started screaming at my client, throwing water from a bottle at the mother's face and the baby's face.'"

As if that wasn't enough, LaBelle then took a swing at the baby's mother.

She then was shoved into a waiting car by her entourage and the baby "violently" threw-up.

So far, LaBelle hasn't responded to the allegations.

She's probably too busy not-babysitting to do so.

And in other baby news...

Christina Applegate might not want to have LaBelle as a guest star on her TV show Up All Night anytime soon.

As she tells The View, having her nine-month-old daughter Sadie around was a priority when deciding to do the new NBC show.

"My whole thing was, 'I'm not doing this unless I can bring her.' So they had to build me a room for her and it's got her toys and a crib and she takes her naps there," the actress explained. "That's called a crazy mother who said, 'No, I'm not doing anything unless I can be with my baby.'"

Celebrity tweets

@AlecBaldwin

Bloomberg's NY is no place for the 1st amendment. Bloomberg serves Wall Street, now and forever. And Wall Street cannot handle free speech.

@rainnwilson

Boston drivers: there's a thing called the 'Golden Rule'. Read up on it. Get back to me.

@JimCarrey

You know who I hate? Judgemental people. In my opinion they are worthless scum.

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Escape the resort

The beach and a trashy novel are great for a few days, but when tanning gets old, you might want to see what's outside the resort walls ◆ Puerto Plata's It Zone has the answer

STEPHEN KNIGHT
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

ALL PHOTOS: STEPHEN KNIGHT

▶ Don't just slurp frosty drinks by the pool while in Puerto Plata. Get a taste of the local culture with trips outside the resort walls.

We could all use a little quality time in the sun and a dip in the ocean, especially as another long Canadian winter approaches.

But if you're like some of the thousands of Canadian travellers who flock to this Caribbean island nation of 10 million people each year, you want the all-inclusive travel experience to be about more than just sitting around the resort all day with the latest Danielle Steel/John Grisham novel.

That's where the It Zone comes in. Launched in November by Nolitours (a member of Transat A.T. Inc.), the It Zone is designed for travellers to Puerto Plata who enjoy the home base of an all-inclusive resort — ours was the scenic Be Live Grand Marien — but who are eager to get in touch with the local culture, try some outdoor adventure activities and check out the nightlife beyond sports highlights at the hotel bar.

Eat

A recent tour gave a group of Canadian journalists a close-up glimpse of life outside the perimeter, but first we had to fuel up with an intimate dinner at chef Rafael Vásquez Heinsen's Mares Restaurant and Lounge. Vásquez Heinsen's shaded backyard terrace serves as the main dining area, and the lobster is fresh from the ocean that day.

Monkey business

The next day, a short drive outside Puerto Plata, in Sosua, is the Monkey Jungle, run by the husband and wife team of Chuck and Candy Ritzen. The American ex-pats have hit on an innovative business model that contributes to the economy, creates jobs and provides some basic dental and health care to the local population.

Monkey Jungle is home to 15 protected squirrel monkeys and six Capuchin monkeys, with a care provider who was formerly with the Toronto Zoo. You can walk through the squirrel monkey habitat and the curious simians just hop on your shoulders for a ride. It's the first time I've literally had a monkey on my back.

You can also zip-line through seven stations totaling 4,400 feet and, before the last zip, descend on a cable from a platform into a cave; sort of like zip-lining, but vertically. The Ritzens have a self-sustaining operation where they use the profits from the zip-lining and monkey jungle activities to fund the health clinic on the premises.

Sustainable tourism

The idea of sustainable tourism has also been taken up by tour companies. Transat A.T. Inc. partners with SOS Children's Villages, which provides caring, village-style group homes for orphaned, abused or abandoned children.

We were given a tour of the village in Santiago de los Caballeros, about an hour from Puerto Plata. The smiling kids were curious, and a spontaneous game of baseball, the national sports obsession, broke out using a stick and a ball of rolled-up tinfoil.

Go big, or go home

If it's true you have to go big or go home, then Ocean World is a must-see before you head back to the frigid temps of the Great White North.

Open since 2004, the massive ocean-side complex features interactive activities with dolphins, sharks and stingrays as well as exhibits with everything from tigers to toucans.

In terms of size, the place filters six million litres of seawater an hour.

And, if you like a touch of Las Vegas with your sun holiday, then Ocean World has you covered with its full-service casino, disco lounge, and Bravissimo, a glittery song-and-dance revue with more costume changes than a Paris catwalk.

Now put that book down and go!

If you go...

- Nolitours offers the It Zone through resorts in the Dominican Republic. Visit itzone.nolitours.com for more information.

3 life

Travel in brief

A new 200-kilometre highway in the Dominican Republic, from the capital Santo Domingo to tourist hot spot Punta Cana, will make it easier for visitors to explore the Caribbean country.
The divided highway, which has been under construction for the last four years, was completed earlier this year from Santo Domingo to La Romana on the south coast, significantly reducing travel times between the two cities.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Revitalized neighbourhood in downtown Montreal wins Phoenix Award.

7 ways to give your career some direction

Erin Millar and Ben Coli walk students through their post-secondary journey in The Canadian Campus Connection We combed the book to find top tips to help you improve your job prospects

MARISA BARATTA
TALENTEGG.CA

1 There is more to school than academics

Employers are more impressed with someone who does well in school and outside of it than someone who can boast great marks with no extra-curriculars to show for it. Getting involved on campus demonstrates many traits that are desirable in employers' eyes — time management skills and the ability to multi-task and meet deadlines. It indicates that you possess an interest in the world around you.

2 Plan your career path before you graduate

You shouldn't be expected to know where you want to work when you've only just started university or college. But it's a good idea to make an appointment with your adviser, even if it is to double-check that you're fulfilling your program's requirements. The last thing you want is to discover you have to reschedule your classes or stay back a semester to complete a course.

3 Get to know your professors

You may not love your class. But getting to know your professor could save your career. If you face the common struggle of finding a job after you graduate, your professor could become the strongest reference on your resumé. Who knows you better than the person who saw you every week in class, read your papers and evaluated your work ethic firsthand? And you'll be more interested in what wisdom he or she has to share.

4 Fun electives can boost your resumé

How can a hiring manager forget the promising candidate who, in addition to earning strong marks and joining several clubs, completed a course in video game addiction and the history of gaming at the University of Western Ontario or learned about swing and golf etiquette at Medicine Hat College?

5 Stay healthy — it's important

When it comes down to it, your health matters most. Don't pull an all-nighter, stock up on coffee or force yourself to attend your weekly gym class if you're sick. Stress can take a toll on your health and can create an impact that goes well into your graduate years. Most post-secondary institutions offer a plethora of ways for you to go above preventing illness and into maintaining a healthy state of life.

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6 You don't have to choose between university and college

Some programs combine the hands-on, practical experience of college with the theory-based, analytical side of university.

Those aspiring to be nurses can opt for a college diploma focusing on skills and experience or a more academic degree from a university.

What you might not know is that, for example, Seneca College offers both: For two years, students study nursing at Seneca College and for the next two years, they study at York University.

These programs increase a graduate's appeal among employers as their education demonstrates they can thrive in both the practical college landscape and in a competitive university setting.

Try to get past the stigma that university is "better" than college.

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7 Don't underestimate the power of your network

You've heard it and you'll hear it again: It's not what you know, it's whom you know. It's essential that you possess a strong work ethic and a passion for what you do, but you'll likely find after graduation that this doesn't seem to be enough to find a job. The friends you make, the people you meet and the advisers you work with on campus can all help you find a job.

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No open season on goalies

In wake of Lucic-Miller incident, NHL GMs call for more goaltender protection
Next player to hit a netminder outside of the crease will likely face harsher penalties

The next player to hammer a goaltender outside of his crease isn't likely to get off as easily as Milan Lucic.

A discussion among the league's 30 general managers yesterday produced a strong consensus that goalies need to be better protected — even when they stray from their own goal to play the puck. That's exactly what Buffalo's Ryan Miller was doing on Saturday night when he suffered a concussion after taking a hit from Lucic.

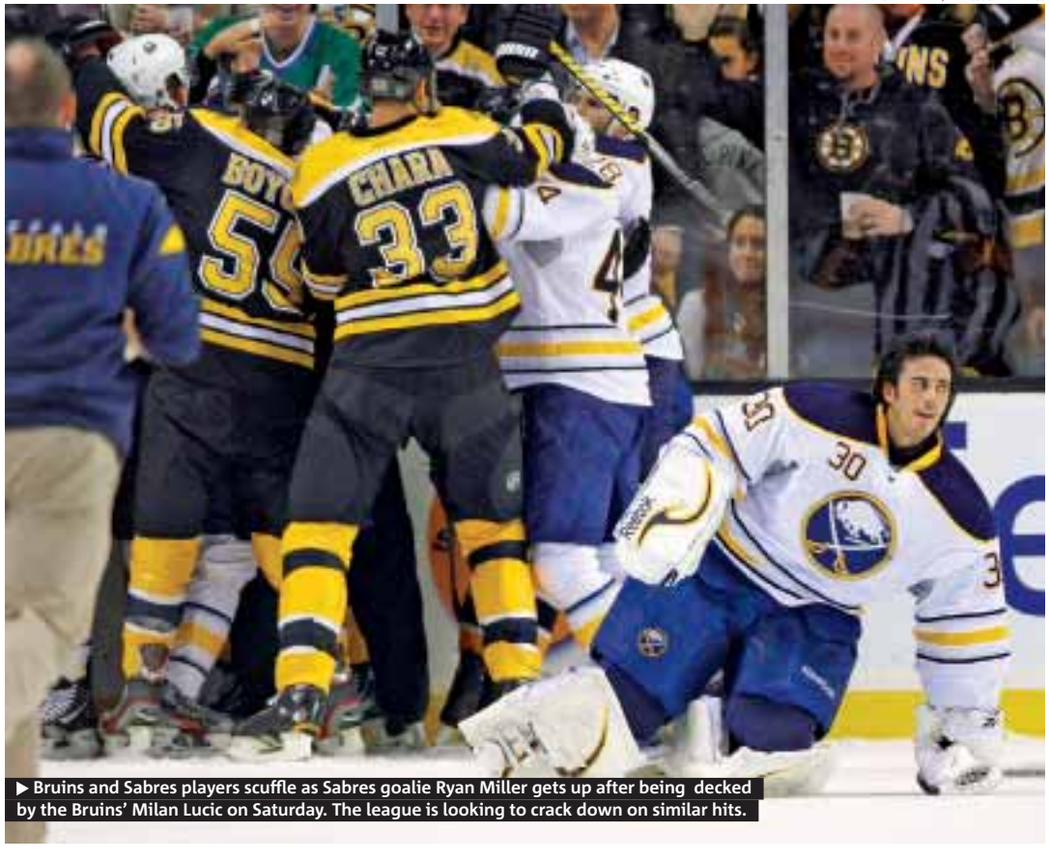
The Sabres were outraged that the only punishment given to the Boston Bruins forward on the play was a two-minute minor for charging. But Buffalo GM Darcy Regier left yesterday's meeting believing that the next offender would be dealt with more harshly.

"Based on our conversations in the room, I personally believe (he) would be," said Regier.

NHL disciplinarian Brendan Shanahan spoke with Lucic on Monday but decided against suspending him because he didn't feel that he had the latitude under the current rules to do it. The Bruins forward claimed not to have run into Miller on purpose.

After learning yesterday that roughly two-thirds of GMs would have preferred to see a suspension in the case, Shanahan acknowledged that his mandate had been altered.

MICHAEL DWYER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Bruins and Sabres players scuffle as Sabres goalie Ryan Miller gets up after being decked by the Bruins' Milan Lucic on Saturday. The league is looking to crack down on similar hits.

"I think there's certainly a very heightened sensitivity to the goalies and the future of all the goalies in this league," he said. "Certainly they're not fair game. I think that players have to understand that. The general managers expressed to me the importance of all the players on the ice but also the extreme importance of the goaltender in that position.

"So I do think that's something as a message to the players around the league, if anybody does think that it's a tactic and a tactic that is a smart gamble on their part, it won't be."

The former NHL star has been busy since replacing Colin Campbell in the offseason and used yesterday's meeting as a chance to have an open discussion about some of his decisions so far. Among the controversial plays he highlighted during a video presentation was the hit by Rangers forward Wojtek Wolski on Ottawa Senators captain Daniel Alfredsson that went unpunished.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Verlander unanimous pick for Cy Young

There was little question Justin Verlander would unanimously win the AL Cy Young Award. Now, the far more intriguing question: Will he take the MVP, too?

"Do I think it's possible? Yes. Would I like to win it? Of course," he said during a conference call. "It's kind of a weird scenario."

No starting pitcher has won the MVP trophy since Roger Clemens in 1986, with Dennis Eckersley the last reliever to get it in 1992. Many say pitchers shouldn't win the MVP, period, contending they already have their own award.

"Since the end of the season, people have been saying that the Cy Young is wrapped up."
JUSTIN VERLANDER

But Verlander's season — he won the pitching version of the Triple Crown, led Detroit to its first division crown in 24 years and drew every first-place vote yesterday in the Cy Young race — has ratcheted up the debate in a crowded MVP field that includes Curtis Granderson, Jacoby Ellsbury, Jose Bautista, Miguel Cabrera and more.

"Pitchers are on the ballot," Verlander said. Bolstering the case for all pitchers, Verlander pointed to the "tremendous effect we have on the day of our game."

"I'm so different from everybody," he said.

If he doesn't win, Verlander said he'd like to see Granderson, his former teammate, get the award.

Verlander breezed to the Cy Young, much the way the Tigers' ace humbled hitters with his 100 m.p.h. fastball, sharp curve and wicked slider.

Verlander led the majors in wins by going 24-5 and topped baseball with 250 strikeouts. His 2.40 ERA was the best among AL pitchers who qualified for the title.

The 28-year-old righty was listed on top on all 28 ballots by members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America and finished with 196 points.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Sports in brief

The Baltimore Orioles are going retro in 2012, bringing back the cartoon bird for their caps as part of a uniform change for the upcoming season.

The new cartoon bird head utilizes elements from the 1970 and 1983 versions. The home cap will feature the bird head on a white front panel with a black back and orange bill and button. The road caps will feature the bird on black with an orange bill and button.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scan code for more sports news.

5 drive

Engine

The 2012 ZL1's supercharged 6.2-litre V-8 — a variation of the engines found in the Corvette ZR1 and Cadillac CTS-V — is mated to a six-speed manual transmission and dynos at 580 horsepower and 556 pound-feet of torque. This makes it the most powerful production Camaro ever built and, Chevrolet proclaims, will be the most powerful Chevy droptop ever.

The ZL1 constitutes much more than just unbridled horsepower, but represents a thoroughly sorted out performance platform where nearly every component has been beefed up or completely redesigned to handle the engine's hefty output.

Cabin

Both driver and their front passenger should have no problems stretching out inside the Camaro's generously sized cabin with its power-adjustable heated leather seats with grippy suede-like inserts. They'll also appreciate the sounds from the dual-mode exhaust system that becomes freer flowing (and louder) when the driver opens the taps a bit.

Suspension

The ZL1's suspension employs GM's Magnetic Ride Control, which uses special shock dampers that constantly vary the degree of firmness, according to road and driving conditions.

There are also Tour (soft) and Sport (firmer) settings that the driver can dial in. Most of the remaining suspension components have either been strengthened or swapped out.

▶ Often when companies dig out sacred names from the past, they're stuck to inferior cars that disappoint. Not here.

By comparison

Mustang Shelby GT500
Base price: $60,700
Well turned-out high-performance coupe or convertible is ZL1's main rival.

Dodge Challenger SRT8
Base price: $50,500
A Mopar fan favourite that's no slouch in the power department.

Cadillac CTS-V coupe
Base price: $73,000
Great-looking, ultra-quick Caddy that shares its powerplant with the ZL1.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Pony power

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

It's your move, Mustang and Challenger. The new Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 has got your number, or more correctly, has beaten your best horsepower numbers ... by a lot.

How does the high-performance ZL1 coupe and convertible square with General Motors' greenification program of introducing fuel-sipping electrics, hybrids plus a couple of new ankle-biter sub-compacts?

Well, the eco trend is definitely here to stay, but at the opposite end of the oil barrel, GM's cornerstone division isn't neglecting its involvement in the muscle/ponycar bracket. Although relatively small, the pedal-to-the-metal gunfighter class remains unequivocal in its No Imports Allowed policy.

And in this club the numero uno bylaw states that horsepower rules and absolute horsepower rules absolutely, or at least until another club member ups the ante and overthrows the leader.

The 2011 edition of the Chevrolet Camaro's SS model was rated at 426 horsepower and was certainly nothing to be sneezed at.

But it couldn't catch a cold next to the Dodge Challenger's SRT8 392 that generated 470 horses from its 6.4-litre "Hemi" V-8 engine. That goes double for Ford Mustang-based Shelby GT500's 550 ponies that emanate from a supercharged 5.4-litre V-8.

With bragging rights on the line, you just had to know that Chevrolet would eventually retaliate.

STILL KICKING: STICK SHIFT NOT DEAD YET

AUTO PILOT

MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE
@METRONEWS.CA

"Stick shift" vehicles have been in steady decline. Currently they represent only about five to seven per cent of the North American new-vehicle market.

That steep of a decline could suggest a zero market share might soon be in the cards.

But it appears that the shifter survivor percentage has hardened into a small, dense core, very much willing and prepared to stand its ground — like a cornered groundhog, overly angry and muscled by steroid use. OK bad analogy, but you get my point.

Stick shifts have had four traditional advantages: always cheaper, always more fun, always more fuel efficient, and always more zip (acceleration and top speed). But the new crop of automatic transmissions has turned the tables when it comes to efficiency and zip. Traditional-type automatic transmissions used to have three or four gears. Now they have more gears than most manuals. Chrysler's new automatic has eight.

We're also seeing more use of the Constant Velocity Transmissions (CVT) and the twin-clutch transmission. The former has no gears, and as such, is compact, light, and can be tailored for optimum efficiency. The latter is hard to explain (for me at least), but makes uses of two clutches — one for odd-numbered gears and one for even-numbered gears. It can go from gear to gear in the blink of eye, because the subsequent gear is already "pre-engaged" and only needs a nod from a computer to get busy. They can shift faster than any human hand could, and their speed is increased by the fact that they don't need a suspension of torque to get their shift completed (hence no torque convertor). Twin-clutch transmissions are rapidly becoming the transmission of choice for performance vehicles, even for such racey marques as Ferrari, BMW and Porsche.

"Our take rate on manual transmissions is way down," says Laurance Yap, director of marketing, Porsche Cars Canada. He adds that, ironically, Europeans are leading the way with automatic transmissions. Europeans have historically snubbed their noses at lazy automatics, but they have fallen in love with the sportier "twin clutch" design. Across the 911 model line in Germany, for example, Yap notes that 75 to 80 per cent are sold with PDK. (PDK is a short form for the official name of the company's twin clutch — Porsche Doppelkupplung. Just try saying that correctly in German without hurting yourself.) The Canadian "take rake" for 911 models with PDK is only 50 per cent. Go figure: we like manual transmissions more than the Autobahn enabled Germans.

Which brings us back to our angry groundhog.

Manual transmissions will continue to have a life, even in this era where they are technologically trumped, because they are simply more engaging and fun for a certain tribe of driver. The Cadillac CTS-V and the upcoming Mazda MX-5 are two examples of new vehicles that are making "statements" by offering a manual transmission — they are signalling that they are ready to emotionally engage a driver so inclined.

Actually, as vehicles become increasingly sophisticated and computerized, the manual transmission will have an increasing important role — to regain some of that lost emotional connection to the mechanical beast within.

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Final-gen GM minivans should offer reliability

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

For many shoppers, the minivan delivers the ultimate in bang-for-the-buck when it comes to moving a family around.

At General Motors, the Chevrolet Uplander and Pontiac Montana SV6 were the most recent offerings to the minivan-seeking masses.

Though cosmetically different, the underlying hardware in the Uplander and Montana were basically identical.

The following information, therefore, applies to both.

2005 to 2009 Pontiac Montana/Chevrolet Uplander

▶ 2005 Pontiac Montana SV6

Engine

Power came from one of two V-6 engines: a 3.5-litre with 200 horsepower, or a 3.9-litre with 240. A four-speed automatic transmission was standard and All Wheel Drive was available.

What owners like

Most owners report a comfortable highway ride, smooth performance, plenty of interior space and a flexible cargo and passenger compartment layout. Gas mileage is rated strongly, relatively speaking.

What owners dislike

Complaints tend to include interior squeaking, rattling and trim wear as the vehicles age, as well as bland and uninspired styling.

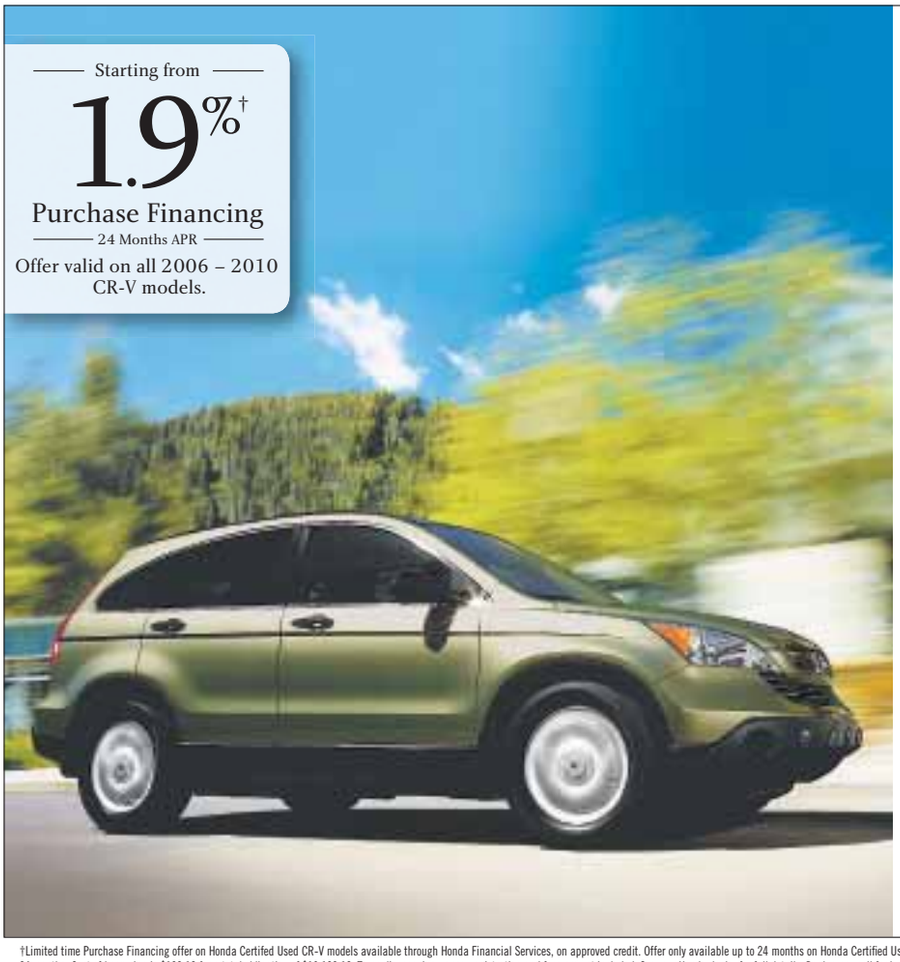
Common issues

Problems stated with the newer GM minivan powerplants seem few and far between — and are mainly sensor related. If the engine and transmission's service requirements have been adhered to, if it runs smoothly and if no "check engine" lights are illuminated, you're well on your way. Be sure to "feel" for any transmission slipping — and avoid any model that exhibits it.

Avoid models with power sliding doors. These can be an expensive hassle when they fail.

Verdict

A well-maintained Uplander or Montana should be a machine from which owners can expect solid powertrain reliability, plenty of space and affordable pricing in the used market.



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†Limited time Purchase Financing offer on Honda Certifed Used CR-V models available through Honda Financial Services, on approved credit. Offer only available up to 24 months on Honda Certified Used Honda models (2006-2010 model years). Finance example based on 2006 CR-V models: $10,000 at 1.9% per annum equals $424.96 per month for 24 months. Cost of borrowing is $199.12 for a total obligation of $10,199.12. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and fees are not included. See your Honda dealer for full details. Dealer may sell for less. Additional financing offers available on 36, 48, 60 and 72 months. Offer expires December 31, 2011.

Top Gear

If you're a Baby Boomer, you likely spotted the Visible V8 model kit at your local hobby shop or toy store when you were a kid.

Well, you can still purchase this award-winning kit for yourself, your kids and your grandkids.

The Revell-made one-quarter-scale engine is generic in origin, but does resemble an early Chevrolet 265- or 283-cubic-inch powerplant. Once the 314-piece kit is correctly assembled, a turn of the hand crank shows a variety of actual working innards, including the crankshaft, connecting rods, pistons, camshaft, valves and rocker arms. In addition there's a working fan and accessory pulleys.

The Visible V8 sells for about $60 US and can be purchased through numerous storefront and online retailers. revell.com/model-kits/engines.

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▲Ratings of "Good" are the highest rating awarded for 40-mph frontal offset, 31-mph side-impact and 20-mph rear-impact crash tests conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) (www.iihs.org). A "Good" rating obtained in all three crash tests plus a "Good" rating in new roof strength testing and the availability of Electronic Stability Control (ESC) (Vehicle Dynamics Control) achieves a 2011 Top Safety Pick. ♦Based on ALG's 2011 Residual Value Award for Best Mainstream Brand. *MSRP of $25,995 on 2012 Forester 2.5X (CJ1 X0). Lease for $329 a month for 24 months with $2,495 down. 2.9% lease rate. $2,898.45 due at signing. Option to purchase at end of lease is $18,795. Advertised pricing consists of MSRP plus charges for Freight/PDI ($1,595), Air Tax ($100), Tire Stewardship Levy ($29.20), OMVIC Fee ($5), Dealer Admin ($199). Freight/PDI charge includes a full tank of gas. Taxes, licence, registration and insurance are extra. $0 security deposit. Model shown: 2011 Forester 2.5X Convenience Package (BJ2 CP). MSRP of $28,095. Dealers may sell or lease for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year, with excess charged at $0.10/km. Leasing and financing programs available through Subaru Financial Services by TCCI. Other lease and finance rates and terms available; down payment or equivalent trade-in may be required. Vehicle shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Offers available until November 30, 2011. See your local Subaru dealer for complete program details.

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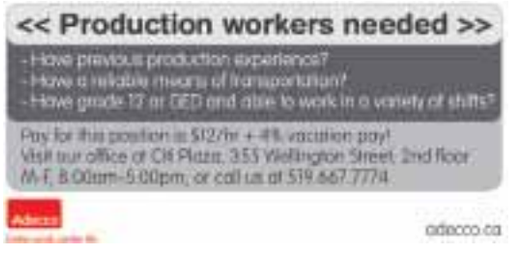
General Help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Study Title: "Poverty & Social Inclusion"
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Community Events

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A Unique Shopping Experience! Outdoor German Market Indoors! Artisans/Craftsmen / Shopkeepers selling one of a kind items. Handcrafted ornaments/pottery/toys etc - German fare & baked goods. Adms-$2 Child under 12 free German Club - 1 Cove Rd 519-433-2901

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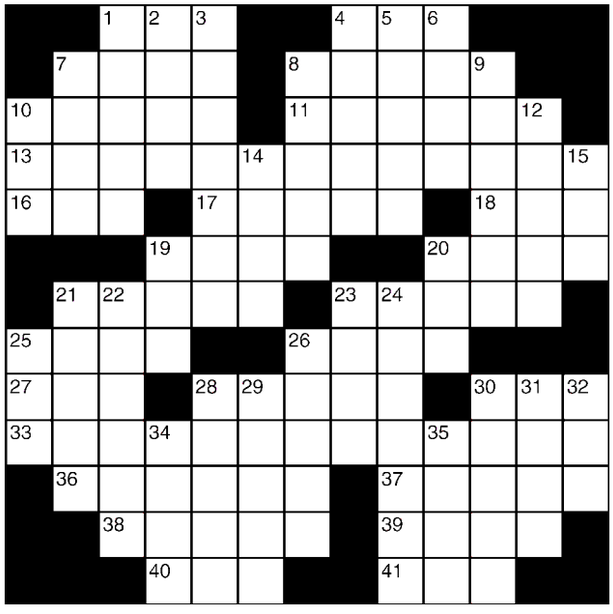
Crossword



Across

1 "Bam!"
4 Altar affirmative
7 Consequently
8 Dodge
10 Decorate
11 Eateries
13 Good thing with a bad element
16 Pigpen
17 Beethoven's "Für — "
18 Slithery squeezer
19 Chow
20 Galley supply
21 Nervous
23 Move laterally
25 Humdinger
26 Finished
27 — Baba
28 Accumulate
30 Witticism
33 Ambivalence of a sort
36 Sir Isaac who developed a shorthand method
37 Finish
38 Archaeologists' meccas
39 Best pocket pair
40 "Monty Python" opener
41 Beavers' creation

Down

1 Substitute
2 Shrek is one
3 Is curious (about)
4 Wall-climbing plants
5 Thickly populated
6 Mined-over matters
7 Rewrite, maybe
8 Forgo the cue cards
9 — Council ("Survivor" meeting)
10 Mornings (Abbr.)
12 Sleep soundly?
14 Sad
15 Petrol
19 Wildebeest
20 Praise in verse
21 Dutch flower
22 Panacea
23 Mediocre
24 As an alternative
25 Felon's flight
26 Curses
28 Fess up
29 Wherewithal
30 Web surfer's need
31 Responsibility
32 Recipe meas.
34 Needle case
35 Bygone Peruvian

▶ Yesterday's answer

S	L	A	Y		F	D	A		G	A	M	E
P	U	P	A		I	A	N		A	D	A	M
E	X	E	C		T	H	A	L	L	I	U	M
W	E	S	H	A	L	L		A	P	T	L	Y
			T	R	Y		O	V	A			
C	R	O	S	S		S	H	A	L	L	O	T
B	A	R			G	E	M			I	R	E
S	H	A	L	L	O	W		B	A	S	T	E
			O	U	T		C	A	D			
O	L	E	O	S		C	H	A	L	L	A	H
M	A	R	S	H	A	L	L		I	O	T	A
E	D	G	E		C	O	O		B	R	O	S
N	E	O	N		E	Y	E		S	E	P	T

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Sudoku

			2	9		1	3	8
				1			6	5
		6				4		
3			8				9	
		2				5		
	5				4			7
		4				6		
9	6			5				
5	8	3		4	7			

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

1	4	6	3	8	7	2	9	5
2	9	5	6	4	1	3	7	8
7	8	3	9	5	2	6	1	4
8	1	4	7	2	5	9	3	6
6	3	7	1	9	4	5	8	2
9	5	2	8	3	6	1	4	7
4	6	1	5	7	3	8	2	9
5	2	8	4	1	9	7	6	3
3	7	9	2	6	8	4	5	1

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Birthday Boy, Happy belated. Watching you take care of the 4 legged visitor on the counter made me realize how we could not live in the AB'TOS without you although maybe if you cleaned better it would not be necessary - cheers! **BSMTDWELLER**

MyOneTrueLove, i love waking up to you every morning and goin to bed together, these past two months have been the best 2 months and i cant wait to spend many more months with you. You keep me smiling from ear to ear and thats what i love about you, you excite me and make me laugh when i am down. i hope we are together for a long time. **THELOVEOFMYLIFE**

Holdent, Hope your Birthday is AMAZING & full of m-m-m-maybach music! Go Boston! <3 **BELA MAFIA**

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 With Mars, your ruler, on excellent terms with expansive Jupiter today, there is nothing you cannot accomplish.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You won't lack for courage or confidence today, but make sure they are both well directed.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 If you promised to do something for a loved one then you must see it through to completion.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Don't waste precious time thinking of what might have been. Start being amazing today. Live for now.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 The planets suggest that if you make an effort, the results will astonish you.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Don't waste time worrying about whether or not you are doing the right thing. If it feels right to you, that's all that matters.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If there is something you should have finished but never got round to completing, have a second crack at it.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You can sense that if you want to make changes now is the time to get busy. So don't wait, get to it.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 With Mars and your ruler Jupiter on good terms over the next 24 hours, you can overcome fears.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Don't waste time on tasks that can be done with your brain stuck in neutral. Be bold and brilliant.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 What you start over the next two or three days will bring great success in the very near future.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. It'll be easy to lose your sense of perspective in the next 24 hours. Control emotions. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

FRANCOIS MORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHN GOMES, ALASKA ZOO/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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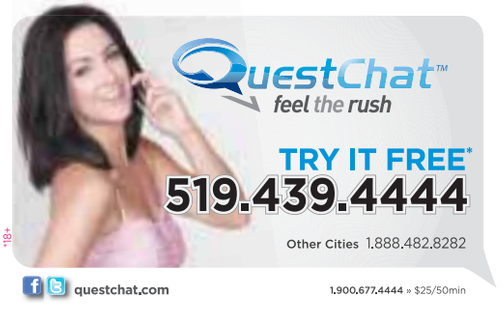

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